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Shahan Islam	Shahan Islam Esq		EXAMINER		
Rosenman & C 575 Madison A	venue		AKERS, GE	AKERS, GEOFFREY R	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1-28 are rejected as unpatentable over Shepherd(US Pat. No: 6,134,536) in view of Buist(US Pat. No:6,408,282).
- 4. As per claims 1,17 Shepherd teaches a system for real time trading of options contracts between a plurality of hiuman traders over a network(Abstract) where the system comprises a network(Fig 1) and a server connected to the network(col 6 line 61-col 7 line 67) and two or more trader clients operably connected to the computer network so that each trader can be placed in communication with the market server(Fig 9)(Fig 10)(Fig 11)(Fig 15)(Fig 18)(Figs 20-22). Shepherd does not specifically teach where each of the traders perform entry and transmission of commands in real time to the market server and display of substantially realtime updates from the server. Buist teaches this(Fig 3/334)(Fig 4/455/480/465/460/475)(col 6 lines 25-47) and wherein the trader client commands including trade orders wherein said market server distributes the trade orders and executions of same to the traders clients is in real time(col 6 lines 31-36). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of

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Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

5. As per claim 2, 18 Shepherd teaches according to claims 1,17 respectively. Shepherd does not specifically teach wherein the market server processes, matches and executes orders in real time. Buist teaches this(Fig 3/334)(Fig 4)(col 13 lines 15-20). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

- 6. As per claim 3 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 2 wherein the market server matches trade orders where each party to a trade is identified by the other party as an accepted counterparty(Fig 1/14/15)(col 4 lines 38-49)(Fig 51B)(Fig 51A).
- 7. As per claim 4 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 2 wherein the market server screens trades based on credit available to the trader(col 12 lines 28-46)(Fig 53A)(Fig 53B).
- 8. As per claim 5 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 1 wherein the market server screens trades based on credit available to the trader(col 12 lines 28-46)(Fig 53A)(Fig 53B).
- 9. As per claim 6 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 1 wherein each of the clients provides information to the trader regarding a desired underlying commodities market as received from the market server(Fig 61A)(Fig 62A).
- 10. As per claim 7 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 6. Shepherd does not specifically teach wherein each of the trade clients displays the underlying commodities

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information in a working order and filled order window. Buist teaches this(Fig 42)(Fig 48A)(Fig 48B). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

- 11. As per claim 8 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 7. Shepherd does not specifically teach wherein said underlying commodities information is available to the trader in summary and detailed form. Buist teaches this (Fig 43A) (Fig 43b) (Fig 5). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist (col 2 lines 57-60).
- 12. As per claims 9, 21 Shepherd teaches according to claims 1, 20 respectively. Shepherd does not teach specifically where each of the clients facilitates entry of said commands by providing a graphical user interface. Buist teaches this(Fig 7)(Fig 8)(Fig 9)(Fig 10)(Fig 11)(Fig 12)(Fig 13)(col 11 lines 15-28)(Fig 5). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).
- 13. As per claims 10,22 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claims 9,21 respectively wherein each of the clients facilitates entry of the commands by providing a simplified order entry

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language(Fig 5A/510)(Fig 7)(Fig 11/1125/1150/1165/1140/1130). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

- 14. As per claims 11,22 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claims 1,21 respectively wherein each of the clients facilitates entry of the commands by providing a simplified and quick order entry language(Fig 5A/510)(Fig 7)(Fig 11/1125/1150/1165/1140/1130). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).
- 15. As per claim 12,24 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 11,22 respectively. Shepherd does not necessarily teach wherein the order entry language further contains symbols representing multiple trade orders. Buist teaches this(Fig 6/652)(Fig 7/740)(Fig 13/1325)(Fig 16A). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).
- 16. As per claims 13,25 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claims 12,17 respectively.

 Shepherd does not necessarily teach wherein each of the trader clients facilitates entering a supplementary trade command to diminish the risk of prior trade command. Buist teaches this (Fig.

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5A/limit/stop)(Fig 11/1140/1145/1155/1160)(Fig 56). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

- 17. As per claims 14,26 Shepherd teaches according to claims 1,17 respectively wherein displaying updated information which includes negative bid pricing values only if followed by opposite offers(Fig 54B)(Fig 54A)(Fig 55B).
- 18. As per claims 15,27 Shepherd teaches the method according to claims 14,26 respectively where the negative bid pricing values are displayed in terms of the lowest strike value(Fig 82B)(Fig 82A)(fig 72A)(Fig 71A)(Fig 67A).
- 19. As per claims 16,28 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claims 1,17 respectively wherein once an information of negative bid pricing is presented the presented values are not updated automatically(col 22 lines 30-col 24 line 7)(Fig 17).
- 20. As per claim 19 Shepherd teaches the invention according to claim 17 wherein acting on the commands submitted from multiple clients at the server includes validating commands prior to acting further on the command(Fig 1/14/15)(col 4 lines 38-49)(Fig 51B)(Fig 51A).
- 21. As per claim 20 Shepherd teaches according to claim 17. Shepherd does not necessarily teach submitting commands is facilitated by multiple command entry methods. Buist teaches this (Fig 5A/510) (col 11 line 15-col 12 line 7). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to

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combine is to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction

as enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

22. As per claim 23 Shepherd teaches the method according to claim 17. Shepherd does not

specifically teach displaying in real time of the information from the server including parsing the

information into multiple windows depending on the status of the order. Buist teaches this(Fig.

43A)(Fig 43B)(Figs 44-48). It would have been obvious to one skiled in the art at the time of the

invention to combine Shepherd in view of Buist to teach the above. The motivation to combine is

to teach a an efficient Internet based trading system which provides human interaction as

enunciated by Buist(col 2 lines 57-60).

Conclusion

23. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

-Glasserman teaches the pricing of options usung importance sampling

-Makivic teaches simulation methods for valuation of derivative financial instruments

Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the examiner are unsuccessful, the

examiner's superior, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

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The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to Technology Center 3600 or this Art Unit is (703)-308-3687. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1113.

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